

PAST METHODS OF RESTORING PEACE

Some Precedents Which Might Be Useful to Spain.

RECALLED BY THE BELIEF THAT SHE IS SEEKING TO INITIATE A PEACE MOVEMENT—NO FIXED PROCEDURE UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW—INTERESTING FEATURES IN THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH FOLLOWED OUR FORMER WARS.

New York Commercial Advertiser. In view of the growing belief that Spain is seeking to initiate a peace movement, the precedents bearing on peace negotiations are being looked up. They disclose many interesting features in the negotiations following wars in which the United States has engaged.

The peace negotiations closing the Revolutionary war came about in a romantic manner. Franklin and Jay succeeded in calling the active assistance of France. Among Franklin's neighbors was a Mme. Britton, with whom Franklin had formed a fast friendship. Mme. Britton spent the summer at Nice, where she met several English noblemen, among whom were Lord Cholmondeley. The latter on learning that she was a friend of Franklin asked for a note of introduction to him, saying he would call and drink tea with him at Passy. The letter was given and Franklin and Lord Cholmondeley were brought together on friendly terms. His lordship said that he was an intimate friend of Lord Shelburne, who had just become the ruling figure of the British ministry, and it was suggested that Franklin write a letter to Lord Shelburne, which Lord Cholmondeley undertook to deliver in person.

Acting on the suggestion, Franklin wrote a brief letter expressing the wish that a "general peace" might be brought about. But he was careful to avoid betraying any anxiety or hope that the peace would immediately take place. Franklin felt sure of his ground, as political conditions in the United States were much disturbed. The letter was very welcome to Lord Shelburne, as it arrived just after a serious upheaval in the British parliament. The ministry of Lord North, which had conducted the war, narrowly escaped a vote of censure, and it gave place to a ministry favorable to the recognition of American independence. Lord Shelburne had no wish to initiate the movement, but Franklin's letter paved the way and, as a result, formal negotiations were opened between Franklin and Lord Shelburne, leading to the recognition of American independence and the conclusion of a peace with the American colonies.

MORE FORMAL. The peace negotiations after the war of 1812 were in character. Soon after the war began President Madison took the first step toward restoring peace, and in a message to congress on Nov. 4, 1812, he said: "Anxious to bridge the evils from which a state of war cannot be exempt, I lost no time after it had been declared in conveying to the British government the terms on which its progress might be arrested." The terms proposed by Madison were that Great Britain vacate the Orders in Council on Blockades and on the impressment of American seamen. The movement came to naught.

The emperor of Russia took the next step to restore peace. He made a proposition to John Quincy Adams, our minister to St. Petersburg, suggesting that he would act as mediator. The proposition was made also to the state department at Washington through the Russian minister here. It was accepted by the United States and Messrs. Bayard, Livingston and Adams received instructions on April 15, 1814, to proceed to St. Petersburg. Their instructions began: "Your first duty will be to conclude peace with Great Britain." The terms of peace were the same as Madison had previously specified, but these were indispensable conditions. Great Britain declined the overture, however, and Lord Castlereagh wrote to the state department suggesting direct negotiations. Accordingly, Henry Clay and Jonathan Russell were added to the instructions, receiving new instructions on Jan. 28, 1814. British commissioners were appointed and the commission met at Ghent Aug. 8. The British presented four points: The Americans there. Among the British points was that relating to the maintenance of a warship on the Great Lakes, which has since become an established practice. The peace treaty was finally agreed to Dec. 24, 1814.

OTHER EXAMPLES. During the Mexican war, while hostilities were in progress, the chief clerk of the state department, Nicholas F. Traft, was sent to Mexico to open negotiations for peace. He was instructed to demand the cessation of New Mexico and California. The terms were rejected by Mexico. Thereupon the United States recalled Traft. That caused much agitation in Mexico, as it was feared the United States would adopt most aggressive steps. Traft had not acted on the recall but had remained in Mexico. He succeeded, as a result of the changed feeling, in making a treaty of peace, known as the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo on Feb. 4, 1848.

At the close of the civil war there were no peace negotiations or treaty in the usual sense. Being a rebellion, the federal government recognized no power with which it could make a treaty. The surrender at Appomattox was without condition, but an arrangement

NO FIXED RULE. The precedent of Franklin's informal peace overtures suggests that if Spain is unable to secure the mediation of the European powers she might enlist the services of some friend, who, in an individual capacity, could take the initiative, as Franklin did. That of 1812, suggests that formal peace overtures are to be made through commissioners, duly instructed on the terms they can grant. If the precedent of the Mexican war were followed, then one of the officials of Spain's foreign office could come to Washington and make personal overtures for peace.

The precedents show that there is no fixed procedure, under international law, for the restoration of peace, and that the form adopted is dictated mainly by expediency without undue humiliation of the vanquished party.

THE COST OF WAR.

Hostilities Lasting for One Year Would Eat Up Not Less Than One Billion Dollars.

Few outside of military, naval and other official circles, have any just conception of the appalling cost of modern warfare, especially when large naval operations are involved. Our civil war cost the nation about four millions per day during the last year of the conflict, but we had a million men in the army and navy, or nearly ten times as many as will be employed in the present war with Spain, and our money was depreciated an average of 40 per cent.

The cost of a first-class modern war vessel is \$4,000,000 in round numbers, but the cost of equipping and using such a vessel in warfare surpasses all general calculations. A single twelve-inch gun costs about \$50,000 when placed on the ship ready for action. The maximum capacity of this immense war engine is eighty shots; the minimum thirty. It is not safe to count on these guns firing more than fifty rounds. The intense heat and strain are likely to make the gun useless any time after thirty to eighty rounds are fired from it, after which it is valuable only as old steel. The cost in wear and tear in firing these guns may be safely estimated at \$1,000 for every discharge.

In addition to the cost of \$1,000 for every round fired from these guns in wear and tear, the powder and steel-pointed missile with which the gun is loaded, cost the government \$1,200 every time the gun is fired. It is a safe estimate to say that every time a twelve-inch gun is fired in war, the cost is about \$2,200.

Our war vessels and cruisers are each supplied with torpedoes and pneumatic tubes from which to discharge them against an enemy. They are effective at about 800 yards, and the torpedo with which the air gun is charged is one of the most delicate and complicated machines of modern times. It is constructed with a revolving attachment at the rear, not only to guide it on its deadly mission through the water, but to accelerate its movement, and it is exploded by concussion. One of these torpedoes striking the biggest ship in any navy would entirely destroy the vessel. These torpedoes cost \$2,500 each.

The cost of ammunition for our land forces has also been increased probably tenfold. One pound of lead costing only a few cents, would make sixteen cartridges for the rifle used in our civil war. Today the cartridges used by our infantry cost little if any less than ten cents each. With a modern gun these little missiles carry three miles, and at a range of a mile they will go clear through three men, and probably more if they are not too greatly obstructed by boring clean holes through bones of the human anatomy. They are much lighter than the old cartridge, and the soldier will carry one hundred rounds with the same ease that the soldier of our civil war carried forty. The cost of cartridges for an efficient rifeman in action now would be about \$1 per minute.

As the war with Spain is likely to be chiefly a naval war, it is well worth considering how much the war will cost. The figures we have given, as the cost of constructing and using vessels in war, are on the gold basis. American four per cents sell at about 118; Spanish four per cents sell at about thirty-three, or one-third less than their face.

Thus while it will cost our government \$4,000,000 to construct and equip a battleship, and \$2,500 for every round fired from one of our large guns, and \$2,500 for every torpedo we hurl against the enemy, the cost to Spain is just three times the amount of the cost of the same to the United States.

Vessels and munitions of war can be obtained only on the gold basis, and every round fired from the Spanish twelve-inch gun must cost our government not less than \$7,500, and every torpedo sent on its mission of death from a Spanish boat must cost a like sum. Spain is now enjoying the luxury of cheap money that is demanded by many demagogues in our own country, and she pays for the luxury by doubling the cost of every shot she fires against her foe.

The present war with Spain will be the most costly war of any time. However brief it may be, our comprehensive preparations for it will count up in the hundreds of millions, and if it shall continue for a year, its aggregate cost will probably not be less than \$1,000,000,000 and may be more. In short, modern warfare is the most costly savagery in the history of the world.

Ready to Make the Sacrifice. "What has suddenly caused you to de-

Sunday School Lesson for July 10.

Elijah, the Prophet.

1 Kings XVII: 1-16.

BY J. E. GILBERT, D. D., LL. D., Secretary of American Society of Religious Education.

CONNECTION.—Jeroboam, the first king of Judah, believing that a change in religion would confirm him on the throne, set up the worship of the golden calf, which he had made for himself. He was allowed to bring him supplies for his bodily needs. (Verses 5 and 6.) He was left abandoned, alone in the wilderness, which he drank from the brook. The clear mountain stream that supplied him with the best beverage. The friendship of birds with wonderful intelligence and kindness, directed by divine care, came twice a day with bread and meat. Cherith became the good mother, paring a kitchen, a dining room, a chamber of repose; what meditation, what sweet communion, what enlargement of purpose, what clearer vision, what abiding faith, marked the days passed in that solitude! This was the way to a better preparation for future service and struggle. So men should separate from the world for a time when they are to do great things for the world. (Mark, vi, 31.) There was danger, however, in this retirement. Elijah, the Tishbite, comes suddenly into public notice, with a word of rebuke to his parents. We know only that he was a native of Gilead, east of the Jordan.

PREDICTION.—The sacred penman first mentions Elijah as standing in the presence of Ahab. His earlier ministry, which must have been important, is not called upon to protect him from a brave man to preach to an idolatrous king, whose wife, the wicked Jezebel, was a hindrance. The prophet's message was not to be received. There was a prediction that neither rain nor dew should fall, except according to Elijah's word. Years would pass (James, v, 17) during which the people would suffer from drought, a calamity causing trouble among all classes of the people. This was intended to be a judgment from God, which should be a warning to the king. The prediction did not rest solely upon the prophet's veracity. He affirmed it with most positive manner, declaring that it was as certain as the fulfillment as the very existence of Jehovah. To add to the force of his words he declared he stood in the presence of the authorized servant and the commissioned spokesman of heaven. That was a momentous occasion. A proud and arrogant sovereign was summoned to learn the sovereignty of the whole earth to learn the penalty of his evil doings.

PROTECTION.—In those days the power of the king was every time a twelve-inch gun is fired in war, the cost is about \$2,200. Our war vessels and cruisers are each supplied with torpedoes and pneumatic tubes from which to discharge them against an enemy. They are effective at about 800 yards, and the torpedo with which the air gun is charged is one of the most delicate and complicated machines of modern times. It is constructed with a revolving attachment at the rear, not only to guide it on its deadly mission through the water, but to accelerate its movement, and it is exploded by concussion. One of these torpedoes striking the biggest ship in any navy would entirely destroy the vessel. These torpedoes cost \$2,500 each.

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whose cause was dearer to him than life itself.

RETIREMENT.—Elijah obeyed the voice of God. He made for himself an abode in the quiet retreat set apart for him. He went there alone, no mortal was permitted to see him, or to know his place of hiding. To one was allowed to bring him supplies for his bodily needs. (Verses 5 and 6.) He was left abandoned, alone in the wilderness, which he drank from the brook. The clear mountain stream that supplied him with the best beverage. The friendship of birds with wonderful intelligence and kindness, directed by divine care, came twice a day with bread and meat. Cherith became the good mother, paring a kitchen, a dining room, a chamber of repose; what meditation, what sweet communion, what enlargement of purpose, what clearer vision, what abiding faith, marked the days passed in that solitude! This was the way to a better preparation for future service and struggle. So men should separate from the world for a time when they are to do great things for the world. (Mark, vi, 31.) There was danger, however, in this retirement. Elijah, the Tishbite, comes suddenly into public notice, with a word of rebuke to his parents. We know only that he was a native of Gilead, east of the Jordan.

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more important. He was caring for His cause. Many lessons of faith and hope and love, of gentleness and patience may be learned in the home of this widow. The intercourse of the three shall be blessed to the good of each.

PROMISE.—The heart of the prophet does not fail in this hour of trial. His experience at Cherith was sufficient to strengthen his faith. It required no effort to believe that in some way "the Lord would provide." Immediately his mind was illuminated, and he was permitted to see the method by which his wants would be supplied. The scanty store of meat and oil, under divine blessing, should be adequate for the little household, himself a member, until the drought be ended and copious showers were sent upon the earth. So he declared to the poor mother who had been distressed at the prospect for herself and son, she had no need to take in the great, and, dividing what she had with him, would have daily increase. (Verses 13 and 14.) The boldness of his promise, approaching even to rashness, was believed somewhat by the assurance that he had received such word from the Lord. Therefore, Elijah made further demands upon the woman's faith by ordering her to serve him first, as an act of courtesy due to his station, and then to prepare for herself and son. That might seem to be an unreasonable demand. It appeared to be giving away to a stranger, upon his mere word, the last of the food in the little home, expecting more only through a miracle.

FULFILLMENTS.—The woman's faith was equal to the demand made upon it. Who shall describe the workings of her mind, by which she accepted the prophet's word, followed his direction, and trusted in his promise? Her faith was the reliance upon the power of God, equaled only by that of one in her own country many centuries after, who pleaded with Jesus for her daughter (Mark, v, 23, 25). She received the prophet, gave him a room, a spare bed and ministered unto him until the 15th day. The days passed, and the promise was fulfilled. As the Lord multiplied the loaves and fishes (Matthew, xiv, 19) to the feeding of the thousands, so there was no lack, so each day the meal and the oil were undiminished, though from it was taken what was needed for each day's use. (Verse 16.) As God sent manna to Israel in the wilderness (Exodus, xvi, 14), so He fed the three—Elijah, the widow, the son—in Zarephath, all the days of the famine. In many homes there was want and sorrow. Which of the three learned most and which rejoiced most would be difficult to say.

CONCLUSIONS.—There are many points for profitable reflection in this passage: 1. The man sent on an errand from God ought not to fear the face of a mortal. (Genesis, xv, 1.) Let the message be delivered and the work performed, assured that a good Providence will take care of the consequences. 2. If one, through stress of circumstances, is driven into obscurity, let him remember that the hidden man of the heart, with so still spirit (1 Peter, iii, 10) thrives best when separated from the world. Many men are led a long way to some distant spot, there to find nothing which to human thought increases to their plans. What seems to men adverse may in the end prove to be most favorable. 3. The man who is poor and in distress need not on that account refuse to meet the wants of others. It often comes in blessing one is blessed (Luke, vi, 20) that he becomes rich in the way of wealth. 4. The true minister of religion carries into a home more than he can receive from it, for God goes with him, which was the source of his increase in quantity and value to the joy of all.

POVERTY.—The prophet went on his long journey. On reaching his destination, even before entering the city, he found his hostess, made known to him by his calling, was a widow, the wife of a spirit of God. (Verse 10.) But now a new element entered into the trial of his faith and the discipline of his character. He was to minister to a woman, who, in such humble circumstances as required her to gather up the loose wood outside the gate, with which to build a fire in the household, and to have a morsel of bread. Then he learned her extreme destitution. She had no food at all, and he had but a little meal, a little oil and a little of a crust. (Verse 11 and 12.) And that she had intended preparing to cook, and that she had no store would then be exhausted, they would die. Poor prospect this for a minister! Strange Providence it was that ordered the vision of the prophet, and so far to be a burden in a home where already want had crushed the heart, and death grinned for its victim? And yet that which was the source of his increase in quantity and value to the joy of all.

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